THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • THURSDAY • JUNE 12, 2025 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 22 • LATE CITY EDITION

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AADHAAR-AUTHENTICATED USERS CAN ONLY BOOK TICKETS FROM JULY 1

Tatkal tickets through IRCTC is only for users who have completed their Aadhaar authentication, Railway ministry announced on Wednesday

AADHAAR-OTP NEEDED TO BOOK FROM JULY 15

The ministry informed all zones that the decision was made to ensure that the benefits of the Tatkal Scheme are received by common end-users. Subsequently, Aadhaar-based OTP authentication shall also be made compulsory for Tatkal bookings from July 15, 2025, onwards. Wide publicity will be given to these modifications, the Ministry said | P11

AGENTS CAN'T BOOK FOR FIRST 30 MINUTES

- Authorized ticketing agents will be restricted from booking Tatkal tickets for AC classes from 10am to 10.30am and for non-air-conditioned classes from 11am to 11.30am, a circular read
- Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) and IRCTC have been directed to make the necessary modifications for the general public

6.6 crore

REGISTERED USERS ON IRCTC PORTAL AND APP AS OF JUNE 11, 2025

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

India hopes for trade fair and square with US

After Trump's breakthrough deal with China, nation eyeing to wrap 1st phase of deal in July

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

EVEN as India is racing against time to clinch a trade deal with the US before expiry of the July 9 deadline, when the 90-day exemption period for implementation of reciprocal tariff gets over, sources say that the first phase of the deal would only address the low-hanging fruits. "The trade talks will be in multiple phases, but the first phase should end before July 9," said an anonymous government source.

With US president Donald Trump announcing a deal with China on Wednesday, India would be in a hurry to conclude the first phase before July 9. The US has also finalized a trade deal with the UK.

India was the first country to start negotiating a trade deal with the US. In an interview with French newspaper Le Figaro on Tuesday, Foreign Minister S Jaishankar had said he is hopeful of reaching an agreement with US before the reciprocal tariffs kick in.

A US delegation which visited India had a four-day meeting with Indian negotiators. The meeting ended on Tuesday. The talks veered from tariff rates, better market access, digital trade, and tariff on agriculture and allied goods. The two teams reportedly discussed the issue of a 50% tariff on steel and aluminium. India has threatened retaliatory action against the US over doubling tariffs on steel and aluminium.

India has so far resisted giving easier access to agriculture and dairy imports. But the government hinted it might relent on the issue with the US.

A Niti Aayog report recently argued that the US is expected to remain a big market for export of surplus food from India, and all efforts need to be made to keep a favorable environment for exports to the US. The report, while arguing for protecting sensitive products like dairy and poultry, makes a case for lowering tariffs on imports of commodities in which India enjoys supply advantage. The two countries have also discussed non-tariff barriers with the US raising concerns over India's quality control measures and local procurement conditions for manufacturing. The US has raked up India's famr subsidy too.

A top commerce ministry official told this newspaper that the negotiations are on and it is not fair to divulge details.

TARIFF TRACKER

HIGHLIGHTS

US, China finalised a trade deal Wednesday, with China agreeing to cut export restrictions on rare earth minerals

India wants to seal a deal with US before reciprocal tariffs kick in

Grilling in hills: Sonam reaches Shillong

Sonam Raghuvanshi's brother Govind breaks down while consoling Raja's mother in Indore on Wednesday | PTI

Govind, brother of Sonam

BROTHER WANTS DEATH SENTENCE

Sonam's brother Govind Raghuvanshi visited the home of Raja on Wednesday and said that the evidence clearly suggested that she had got it done.... "she should get the death sentence".

ANURAG SINGH & PRASANTA MAJUMDAR @ Bhopal/Guwahati

AS the SIT of Meghalaya Police probing the May 23 honeymoon killing of Indore tourist Raja Raghuvanshi started quizzing the five arrested accused, including Raja's wife Sonam, there were a series of unanswered points that seemed to hold the key to investigations.

A local court in Shillong on Wednesday sent Sonam and four others, including prime accused Raj Kushwah, to eight-day police remand. Though there were reports of Sonam confessing to the crime, the police urged the media to not jump to any conclusions. Meanwhile, Sonam's brother Govind visited Raja's home on Wednesday and broke into tears after hugging his slain brother-in-law's mother, Uma Raghuvanshi. One unanswered point seems to be Sonal's trolley bag? "Why was she carrying a trolley bag while going with Raja to the monsoon tourism hotspot Sohra (Cherrapunjee) on a short visit? Have you seen any couple carrying a trolley bag on a short trip riding a scooter?" a source told *TNIE*.

"Where are Sonam's cellphones she was carrying during the trip? There were at least two iPhones, one of which seemed to have been destroyed after the murder. All others are switched off," the source added.

"Raja rented a scooter to go from Shillong to Sohra on May 23. The scooter was found abandoned some distance from the place where he was murdered. Who took that scooter there? Also, CCTV grabs of nearby areas a short while after the killing show Sonam on a scooter (possibly the same rented scooter) probably accompanied by Vishal, the man who actually attacked Raja with the machete."

"They attacked Raja, but he resisted two of them, seeing the two attackers being overpowered by Raja, the third attacker Vishal attacked on his head with the Dao (machete)," said the source. Earlier in the wee hours, Sonam was brought to the hill station and had a medical examination. P12

Axiom-4 launch postponed again

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

A technical glitch put off the launch of Axiom-4 space mission for the second time in a week. It had been postponed from June 10 to June 11, citing bad weather.

A couple of hours before the scheduled launch at 2.52 pm IST on Wednesday, Axiom Space, conducting the space mission, postponed it because of a leak of liquid oxygen (LOx) identified during the post-static fire booster inspection. The next date for the launch has not been announced.

Sources in NASA and ISRO, who are part of the Ax-4 mission, along with SpaceX, a private firm providing space rocket information and services, told *TNIE* about issues in the steering system of the rocket, because of which the mission was postponed.

The Ax-4 is a low-Earth Orbit mission to be launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Centre. The Falcon-9 rocket will launch SpaceX Dragon spacecraft for a 14-day space mission to the International Space Station (ISS). P7

ED raids 4 Congress MLAs, Ballari MP

'CONG UNITED DESPITE NDA'S ED ACTION'

AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge said the ED targets Congress MLAs and MPs as the main intention of the NDA is to divide the party, but it stands united. P4

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Ballari

THE Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on Wednesday raided the offices and residences of four Congress MLAs and Bellary MP E Tukaram in Ballari and Vijayanagara districts in connection with alleged financial irregularities in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation (KMVSTDC).

The raids targeted Ballari Rural MLA and former minister B Nagendra, who was earlier arrested and now out on bail; Ballari MLA Nara Bharath Reddy; Kampli MLA JN Ganesh, and Kudligi MLA Dr NT Srinivas.

VALMIKI CORPN SCAM

Police sources said the ED might take Bharath Reddy and Tukaram into custody.

In the scam, funds from the corporation's bank accounts were diverted to private accounts and it was alleged that over Rs 20 crore was used for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

The alleged scam came to light after Chandrashekaran P, who was working as superintendent at the corporation, died by suicide, leaving behind a death note. BJP has alleged that funds from the corporation were diverted for Lok Sabha polls. CONTINUED ON P4

EXPRESS READ

TG HC suspends Gali's sentence in mining case

HYDERABAD: The Telangana High Court on Wednesday granted former minister Gali Janardhan Reddy bail by suspending his conviction and jail sentence in the illegal iron ore mining case | P7

Women avail 474.82 cr free rides through Shakti

BENGALURU: The Shakti scheme completed two years on Wednesday, clocking 474.82 crore free rides availed by women in non-premium state buses across Karnataka, in that period | P2

Challenges galore before fresh survey

BENGALURU: With the CM and DCM agreeing for a fresh socio-economic survey in the next 90 days, the government has a series of challenges to overcome, including finding enumerators | P4

RCB celebrations held illegally, ended in stampede: Govt to HC

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

THE RCB victory celebrations in the city were held illegally as no permission was obtained, except intimating local police at 6.30pm on June 3 about possible celebrations in the event of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) emerging victorious. Back-to-back posts by Royal Challengers Sports Private Limited (RCSPL) on its social media platforms, inviting fans from dawn to dusk, led to huge gatherings, resulting in the stampede that claimed 11 lives and injured over 60 people at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, the state government contended before the Karnataka High Court on Wednesday.

As no permission was obtained under the Licensing and Controlling of Assemblies and Public Processions (Bengaluru City) Order, 2009, the whole event is illegal and a violation of the order, which is punishable under Section 223(B) of the BNS and Karnataka Police Act, the state argued before court.

As per the tripartite agreement between Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA), Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and RCB, the management of the stadium, including gates and private security, is the responsibility of RCB, which it is not admitting, the state argued.

CONTINUED ON P3

STADIUM stampede

STATE TO HC

Celebrations announced without planning, adequate security, crowd management measures by RCB, DNA, KSCA

No permission was obtained for celebrations

Around 6.30pm June 3, a DNA staffer intimated police of plan to hold parade. He submitted an intimation letter on behalf of KSCA CEO Shubhendu Ghosh to Cubbon Park police inspector

High temp, floods predicted for Himalayas

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

BRACE yourself for a more intense monsoon this year as hotter temperatures, heavier rains, and a spike in climate-related risks are forecast for India and its Himalayan neighbours, according to the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

The Hindu kush Himalayan (HKH) region, which includes India, Nepal, Pakistan, and parts of China, may see temperatures climb up to 2°C above normal along with widespread above-average rainfall. ICIMOD utilised data from global and national meteorological agencies to compile its predictions and concluded that it could lead to an increase in heat stress, outbreaks of waterborne diseases like dengue, and a surge in floods, landslides, and glacial hazards. "The forecasts are unanimous in predicting hotter conditions and more rainfall across much of the HKH," said Arun Bhakta Shrestha, senior advisor at ICIMOD.

Floods remain the leading cause of disaster-related deaths in the region, with over 72 percent occurring during the summer monsoon. Meanwhile, water-scarce Afghanistan may receive less rainfall, worsening food and water insecurity. w

PERILOUS OUTCOME

Above-normal monsoon precipitations across much of South Asia leaves Himalayas vulnerable to hazards like floods, landslides, and glacial lake outburst floods

PRECIPITATION PATTERN

It will vary across the ranges with wetter monsoon predicted for Tibetan Plateau, India, Nepal & Pakistan

Labour Department
Karnataka State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board
Karnataka State Child Labour Eradication Project Society(R)
Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
World Day Against Child Labour
June 12 2025
International Labour Organization
"Progress is clear, but there's more to do: Let's speed up the efforts"
Send Your Children to School, Not for Work
Appointing children below 14 years of age in any type of employment or works and engaging children below 18 years of age in hazardous employments are punishable offence under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.
Steps have been taken to prevent employment of child labour in construction sites and continuous monitoring is being done.
Special schemes have been implemented to promote the education of the Children of construction workers.
Officers from 11 government departments have been appointed as inspectors, to conduct scheduled and surprise raids.
Effective implementation of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and amendment of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.
If child labourers and juvenile labourers are found engaged in work, measures are being implemented to safeguard such children, release them from work, and continue their education.
Child Labour Project Societies have been established in all the districts of Karnataka
State under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner.
In case if any person is found to have engaged or appointed child labourers for work, he/she can attract imprisonment from 06 months to 02 years or fine from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs.50,000/- or both. Repeated offences will attract imprisonment up to 03 years.
Parents who force their children for work will also face legal action. In case of repeated offence, a fine up to Rs.10,000/-will be imposed.
Persons who violate these rules will have to pay a sum of Rs.20,000/- per child they engage for work, to the Welfare Fund established for rehabilitation of children. A sum of Rs.15,000/- will also be provided by the Government per child.
Let's Stop Child Labour
Let's Build a Prosperous Future
Website: https://pencil.gov.in
https://ncpcr.gov.in/user.complaints.php | kscleps@gmail.com
Shri Santosh S. Lad, Hon'ble Minister for Labour and Chairman of the Board, interacting with school children.
HELPLINE NUMBERS
Labour Helpline -155214
Child Helpline -1098
Police Helpline -112
Smt. Bharathi D. I.A.S
Chief Executive Officer and Secretary, Karnataka State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board
Dr.Il H.N. Gopalakrishna, I.A.S.
Commissioner, Department of Labour
Dr.Il N.V. Prasad, I.A.S
Secretary to Government Department of Labour
It is the fundamental duty of every Indian to protect public property and to refrain form violence.